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Up Coming Events

[Maryland Association of Counties \(MACo\) Summer Conference](#)

With raising temperatures outside and increasing gas prices at the pumps, [The Maryland Energy Administration](#) is able to offer a wide variety of strategies, news and resources to help you reduce your energy consumption, increase your understanding of alternative energy resources, and ultimately help [EmPower](#) fellow Marylanders to take control of our energy expenses and the impact they have on our state. For more detailed information, please bookmark MEA's website: <http://www.energy.state.md.us>.

MEA Provides Record Funding for Residential Solar and Geothermal Energy

3.2 kW in Pasadena, MD Governor Martin O'Malley recently announced that the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) has awarded a record level of grant funding in support of residential solar and geothermal energy to Maryland residents.



The Maryland Energy Administration has awarded \$591,000 to Maryland residents for the solar and geothermal program, a residential grant program that helps offset the cost of installing residential and small commercial renewable energy systems.

"Maryland continues to be a leader in investing in cleaner, more renewable energies and it is no surprise that this grant money has been awarded just weeks after becoming available," said Governor O'Malley. "The residential solar and geothermal grant program has helped hundreds of Maryland families contribute to a cleaner and more sustainable economy, while also helping to reduce household energy costs." [Keep reading here](#)

Governor Announces Plans for a More Sustainable Transportation Fuel System

**August 13-16, 2008 at the
Roland Powell Convention
Center
Ocean City, MD**

**[Regional Greenhouse Gas
Initiative \(RGGI\) Auction
Town Hall Meetings](#)**

**The following dates and
areas for public meetings
have been set:**

**1. Southern Maryland
Aug 19th
The La Plata Conference
Center, Room 113E, from 6
PM-7:30 PM**

*La Plata Conference Center
8730 Mitchell Road
La Plata, MD 20646-0910
[Click HERE for Directions](#)*

**2. Eastern Shore
Aug 20th
St. Michaels Library in Talbot
County from 6 PM-7:30 PM**

*St. Michael's Library
106 Fremont St.
St. Michaels, MD 21663
(Building located behind the
Acme Grocery Store)*

**3. Western Maryland
August 25th from 6:00pm-
7:30pm
Allegany College of
Maryland**

*Allegany College of Maryland
12401 Willowbrook Road, SE
Cumberland, MD 21502-2596
Building/Room #: TBD*

**4. Central Maryland
August 26th from 6:00pm-
7:30pm
Woodlawn Library
Baltimore County**



**Construction set
for four State E-
85 facilities
across Maryland**

Just weeks after
announcing plans
to transition 500
MTA buses to
hybrid, and days
following the
award of the

highest grade ever for environmental initiatives from the Maryland League of Conservation Voters, Governor O'Malley today was joined by Lt. Governor Anthony Brown and administration officials to present roadmap for a more sustainable transportation fuel system in Maryland, beginning with the construction of four new E-85 fuel pumps throughout Maryland.

To promote Maryland's energy independence, Governor O'Malley outlined a plan that will combine consumer education, new technologies, and the development of an infrastructure such as the new facilities announced today.

"With the proper state leadership, alternative fueled vehicles such as E-85 cars and plug-in electric hybrids can become common on Maryland's roads during the next ten years," said Malcolm D. Woolf, Director of the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA). "By reducing our reliance on foreign oil, Maryland can advance our economic security, our national security, and our environmental security at the same time."

Governor O'Malley outlined three distinct transportation strategies through which Maryland will become more energy independent: the expansion of biofuels, transition to electric vehicles and an increased public awareness campaign. For further information on this comprehensive transportation plan and MEA's involvement, please [click here](#).

Photo courtesy of the Office of the Governor, From Left to Right: Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown, MEA Director Malcolm Woolf, and Gov. Martin O'Malley

1811 Woodlawn Drive
Woodlawn, Maryland 21207-4074

[Click HERE for directions](#)

Think Your Energy Bills Are Out of Your Control?

Find out How Easy Saving Money Can Be

How you drive and care for your vehicle directly impacts your vehicle's fuel efficiency and gas costs. Follow these simple steps to conserve fuel and save money.

Change a Light bulb: Save \$65 and the Planet

Switch to Energy Star-certified compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) from incandescent bulbs. CFLs can save 75% of the electricity used by incandescents and last up to 10 times longer. It is estimated that over the lifetime of one CFL bulb, you can save up to \$65.

Pump Up Your Tires: Improve Mileage and Cushion Your Wallet

Keeping your tires properly inflated is simple and improves gas mileage by around 3%, saving up to 20 gallons of gasoline, or up to \$75 annually.

Set Your Hot Water Heater to 120 degrees: Save Money and Still Feel the Heat

You'll not only save energy,

you'll also be saving your

Local Crabber Utilizes the Power of Wind with a WindSwept Grant from MEA.

Power costs have people looking into individual wind energy systems

Relaxing with his feet propped up in his enclosed patio, Eastern Shore waterman Paul Abey hears chirping martins and lapping bay waves. He also hears a low-pitched whir.



"It's a good sound," Abey said of the hum coming from blades spinning atop a 45-foot tower on the edge of his front lawn.

"I've cussed the wind all my life," the Green Point crabber added, "but now I don't mind."

That's because he knows that, with every swish of his windmill, he's saving money. His step away from traditional power sources reflects an increasing interest nationwide in what are known as small wind energy systems. As energy prices and environmental concerns mount, more people are testing the breeze.

Most counties in the region don't address wind turbines, but Carroll County tweaked its zoning ordinance earlier this month to allow residents to install the systems. And the state has begun offering grants to help people pay for them.

"Wind power is one of the largest growing alternative energy sources at the moment," said Hali Kilbourne, visiting assistant professor of environmental policy and science at McDaniel College in Westminster. "It's got one of the best energy returns on investments."

Read the full article from the [Baltimore Sun](#).

Written by Arin Gencer, Sun Reporter for the Baltimore Sun and first published on May 25, 2008.

hands.

For More Tips

[Click Here](#) or Go To
www.Energy.Maryland.Go

Energy Gets an "A" in Maryland.



O'Malley Gets Strong Support for Energy Efforts

A Maryland conservation watchdog group gave Gov. Martin O'Malley a grade of A- for his environmental record.

That's the highest grade the Maryland League of Conservation Voters says it has given to a governor since it began issuing the report cards in 1997.

The Maryland Energy Administration also received a grade of A for its leading initiatives, such as the *EmPower Maryland* program and

raising the solar and geothermal grants.

The group released its Gubernatorial Mid-Term Report Card on Tuesday, July 22, 2008.

The overall grade reflects scores in eight different categories. They include air and water quality, climate change, energy, smart growth, transportation, fisheries and wildlife and administration and appointments.

For more information from the Maryland League of Conservation Voters press release, [click here](#).